



A River Runs Through It

Rivers and bodies of water have always played an important role in Virginia. Many early Virginia cities developed along the **Fall Line**, the natural border between the Tidewater and Piedmont regions where the land rises sharply and where the waterfalls prevent further travel on the river.

Test Your Geography Skills

There are four major rivers in our state. All four of these rivers flow into the **Chesapeake Bay**. Match these rivers with the key cities located on them.



York River

Alexandria

Rappahannock River

Richmond and Jamestown

Potomac River

Fredericksburg

James River

Yorktown

Other Interesting Facts

The **Atlantic Ocean** has also been an important fact in Virginia's history. It provided links between Virginia and other countries. In addition, the **Chesapeake Bay** provided a safe harbor and was a source of food and transportation. Today these bodies of water are also important tourist attractions, a key industry in Virginia.



Makes You Wonder

1. How these bodies of water affected the population of Virginia?
2. How did the flow of rivers affect the settlement of Virginia?
3. What is a peninsula? What peninsula is bordered by the **Chesapeake Bay** to the west and the **Atlantic Ocean** to the east?

